STATE OF NEW YORK COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

In the Matter of the Proceeding Pursuant to Section 44, subdivision 4, of the Judiciary Law in Relation to

RICHARD H. REOME, SR.,

STIPULATION

a Justice of the Schuyler Falls Town Court, Clinton County.

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between Robert H. Tembeckjian, Esq., Administrator and Counsel to the Commission, and the Honorable Richard H. Reome, Sr. ("respondent"), who is represented in these proceedings by Darrell L. Bowen, Esq., as follows:

- Respondent has been a Justice of the Schuyler Falls Town Court,
 Clinton County, since 1998. His current term will expire on December 31, 2013.
 Respondent is not an attorney.
- 2. Respondent was served with a Formal Written Complaint dated February 3, 2012, containing charges alleging that he engaged in judicial misconduct in his handling of cases between on or about April 2, 2009 and on or about September 30, 2010. The allegations of the Formal Written Complaint included, *inter alia*, that in seven cases, respondent engaged in and/or considered and/or relied upon improper *ex parte* communications; in seven cases respondent expressed bias in favor of law enforcement officers and/or against the defendants; in two cases, respondent reduced charges against defendants without the consent of the district attorney; in six cases respondent

misinformed defendants that they were not entitled to court-appointed attorneys, apparently based upon his misconstruing the right to counsel in some charges below the misdemeanor level, and/or failed to inform them of their right to plead guilty and demand supporting depositions from officers; in two cases, respondent allowed and considered unsworn testimony; in two cases he found defendants guilty of zoning/housing violations without conducting a trial; in some cases he engaged in inappropriate questioning of defendants at their arraignments; and in one case he failed to rule on a motion to dismiss the charge against the defendant.

- 3. Respondent enters into this Stipulation in lieu of filing an Answer to the Formal Written Complaint.
- 4. Respondent tendered his resignation, dated March 21, 2012, a copy of which is annexed as Exhibit A. Respondent affirms that he will vacate his judicial office on or before April 28, 2012.
- 5. Pursuant to Section 47 of the Judiciary Law, the Commission has 120 days from the date of a judge's resignation to complete the proceedings, and if the Commission determines that the judge should be removed from office, file a determination with the Court of Appeals.
- 6. Respondent affirms that, after vacating his judicial office on or before April 28, 2012, he will neither seek nor accept judicial office at any time in the future.
- 7. Respondent understands that, should he remain on the bench beyond April 28, 2012, or thereafter return to any judicial position at any time, or otherwise

abrogate the terms of this Stipulation, the present proceedings before the Commission will be revived and the matter will proceed to a hearing before a referee.

- 8. Upon execution of this Stipulation by the three signatories below, this Stipulation will be presented to the Commission with the joint recommendation that the matter be concluded, by the terms of this Stipulation, without further proceedings.
- 9. Respondent waives confidentiality as provided by Section 45 of the Judiciary Law, to the extent that (A) this Stipulation will become public upon being signed by the three signatories below, and (B) the Commission's Decision and Order regarding this Stipulation will become public.

Respon

Dated:

3/27/12

Dated:

3/27/12

Dated:

Darrell LVBowen. Esq.
Attorney for Respondent

Robert H. Tembeckjian, Esq.

Administrator and Counsel to the Commission (Thea Hoeth, Of Counsel)

lchard H. Reome, Sr.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

March 21, 2012

Honorable Harold Ormsby Town Supervisor, Town of Schuyler Falls Schuyler Falls Town Hall P.O. Box 99 Morrisonville, NY 12962

Re: Resignation of Honorable Richard Reome, Town Justice

Dear Mr. Ormsby:

This is to advise that, given the circumstances of my deteriorating health condition and other considerations, my last date of service as Town Justice for the Town of Schuyler Falls will be on April 28, 2012, at which time I will resign all duties, powers and responsibilities with respect to that position.

I appreciate all the courtesies and help that have been extended to me over the years by the members of the Town Board, and others who have been so kind.

Respectfully,

Hon. Richard Reome

Town Justice for Town of Schuyler Falls

cc: Hon. Vito Caruso

Administrative Judge 4th District